



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Contact: **John Whitlatch**
Division Chief, Canton Fire Dept.

(330) 438-4540

john.whitlatch@cantonohio.gov

Canton Fire Department offering reward to catch hydrant vandal

Hydrants affected near site of recent house fire

CANTON, Ohio – Canton Fire Chief Stephen Rich announced Wednesday that the Canton Fire Department is offering a \$750 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person or persons tampering with City fire hydrants near the area of Woodland Avenue and 15th Street NW. The hydrants were discovered to have been severely damaged to the point of inoperability when firefighters responded to a recent house fire in the area.

“Working fire hydrants are key to protecting the lives and property of city residents during fire emergencies,” Chief Rich said. “Tampering with this emergency equipment is putting lives at risk and must stop. Anyone who has information that will help us catch the person or persons responsible should call us immediately.”

Those with information regarding the damaged hydrants should call the Canton Fire Department at (330) 649-5900.

###